Death of HPT-32 Trainee IAF Pilot

920. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether last year, a HPT-32 Trainee IAF pilot lost his life in Hyderabad; if so, what are the causes for such an incident;

(b) whether it is a fact that this is the 10th HPT-32 crash since 1989; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to avoid such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The cause of the accident was Human Error (Aircrew) due to inexperience of the pilot.

(b) A total number of fourteen (14) HPT-32 have crashed since 1989.

(c) A continuous and multi-faceted effort is always underway in the Indian Air Force to enhance and upgrade flight safety. Measures to enhance the quality of training to improve the skill levels, ability to exercise sound judgement and situational awareness of pilots are being pursued. Constant interaction with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) of concerned countries are also maintained to overcome the technical defects of aircraft. Besides, anti-bird measures are also undertaken.

New Schemes for the Improvement of NCC

921. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched new schemes/programmes for the qualitative improvement of the efficiency of NCC cadets for improving the defence preparedness of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of funds issued to Rajasthan, for the purposes of NCC activities, during current financial year;

(d) the status of the utilization thereof;

(e) whether in the above context, any proposal of the State Government are pending consideration with the Centre at present; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and their disposal by the Centre?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The training presently being imparted to NCC cadets meets the aims of NCC. Training in weaponry and warfare techniques to improve the defence preparedness of the nation falls beyond the scope of training to be imparted to the NCC cadets.

(c) to (f) Funds allotted to NCC Directorate, Rajasthan under the heads of Office Contingency Grant (OCG), Information Technology (IT) and Hiring of Civil Transport (HCT) during the current financial year are as under:

(*Rs. in lakhs*)

	Head	Funds allotted	Funds utilized
i	OCG	11.00	8.10
ii	IT	10.50	10.24
iii	HCT	1.68	1.18

Apart from this, State Governments also incur expenditure on NCC Camps for which Central Government reimburses 50% of the expenditure. During the current year, the State Government has raised a debit of Rs. 65.34 lakhs for reimbursement by the Centre till December, 2005. The amount for which the debit is yet to be raised by the State Government on the Centre is Rs. 199.28 lakhs.

Quality controls of materials supplied to Army

†922. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the agency which ascertains the quality of arms and equipments supplied to the army and the mechanism it has for testing the same;

(b) the number of centres of quality controllers in the country and the total number of complaints received by them during last three years regarding arms, ammunition and armed vehicles manufactured in ordnance factories;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.